



SAN JOAQUIN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

MEETING TODAY'S PROBLEMS / PLANNING FOR TOMORROW

March 28, 2000

Mark Cowin
CALFED Assistant Director
Water Management Planning
1416 9th Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Cowin,

The San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation has recently learned about a plan proposed by CALFED to pipe water from the central delta across several islands directly to the state and federal pumps near Tracy.

CalFed has again floated a proposal for Delta water management without any discussion with Delta interests or any evident understanding of Delta hydrology and needs within the Delta. The proposal would take high quality water from three Delta locations and pipe it to the export pumps, leaving poorer water in the Delta.

The contention that this is still a "through-Delta" approach is just not true from the perspective of the central and south Delta. The contention that this piped central Delta water could also be delivered to farmers in the central and southern Delta is totally naïve from a practical and engineering point of view. Even if it were feasible, it would make these farmers dependent on the whims of the fish and export operators and would substitute this uncertain supply for their legal right to the quality and quantity of in-channel water supply guaranteed by the Delta Protection Statutes and by their riparian rights.

The San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation demands that this project be reconsidered where agriculture will have a beneficial outcome. If such an outcome is unattainable, then this project must not be considered as an alternative to solve the CALFED Bay-Delta water quality issues.

Sincerely,

Loren C. Ohm
President

Cc: Congressman Richard Pombo
Congressman Gary A. Condit
Congressman John T. Doolittle